MINUTES

—OF THE—

Seventy-seventh Annual Session

—OF THE—

Muskingum Baptist Association,

—HELD WITH THE—

Jonathan's Creek Church,

August 20, 21 and 22, 1886.

NEWARK, OHIO:
ADVOCATE BOOK AND JOB PRESS.
1886.

MINUTES.

Of the Seventy-seventh Annual Session of the Muskingum Baptist Association, Held With the Jonathan's Creek Church, Licking County, Ohio, August 20, 21 and 22, 1886.

AUGUST 20; 10 o'clock A.M.—The Association met pursuant to adjournment. The Introductory Sermon was preached by Eld. W. H. Hickman from Hebrews, 12th chapter, 28th verse. The letters from the several Churches were called for by the former Moderator, read, the Messengers' names enrolled and the Statistics noted as follows;

CHURCHES AND MESSENGERS.	MINISTERS AND TIME OF HOLDING MEETINGS.	Rec'd by Baptism.	Rec'd by Letter.	Restored.	Dismissed.	Excluded.	Deceased.	Total Number.	Contributions.
Falls of Licking, Muskingum co.; John Shaw, Wm. Beal and F. Baker	D. T. Poynter, 2d Lord's day	4	...	...	...	...	2	49	$ 6 00
Hopewell, Perry co.; A. Melick, J. Forsythe, E. Goble	E. Barker, 1st Lord's day	...	...	...	...	...	...	15	3 10
Union, Perry co.; A. Hite, J. Grove and J. Neal	G. N. Tussing, 4th Lord's day	3	...	...	...	...	1	20	5 00
Lancaster, Fairfield co.; G. Starner, J. Fortig and T. Croy	Wm. Fisher, 4th Lord's day	1	...	...	...	...	1	14	1 75
Lexington, Perry co.; Eld. W. H. Hickman, A. Dusenbery and T. David	W. H. Hickman, 4th Lord's day	...	...	...	...	...	...	48	4 15
Timber Run, Muskingum co.; Eld. J. J. Vanhorn, Eld. G. D. Burley and J. Brennan	G. D. Burley, 3d Lord's day	...	...	1	...	...	1	31	3 06
Bethel, Noble co.; J. Jordon and R. H. Downey	E. Barker, 3d Lord's day	1	...	...	...	...	...	33	5 00
Beulah, Muskingum co.; W. H. H. Francis, J. C. Crown and W. Phillips	J. Prichard, 1st Lord's day	9	...	...	...	...	1	42	4 08
Mt. Pleasant, Perry co.; L. Richards	W. H. Hickman, 3d Lord's day.	1	...	...	...	..	...	12	1 25
York, Morgan co.; W. Newlan	No Pastor, 3d Lord's day	...	...	...	...	...	...	10	75
Zoar, Muskingum co., D. Woodruff	J. Croy, 2d Lord's day	...	...	...	...	...	...	15	1 50
Mt. Olive, Morgan co.; C. M. Mathews	J. Croy, 1st Lord's day	...	...	...	2	...	...	14	1 40
Scott's Creek, Hocking co.; E. C. Harsh, W. Funk and A. Nixon	G. N. Tussing, 2d Lord's day	3	...	...	...	1	2	55	4 45
Goshen, Muskingum co.; S. N. Albritain	Z. K. Holliday, 1st Lord's day	...	1	...	...	1	1	27	2 00
Pleasant Hill, Licking co.; J. Holmes, J. O. Cooksey and Wm. Claggett	J. Prichard, 4th Lord's day	3	...	...	...	...	2	48	4 25
Enon, Guernsey co.; letter, but no Messengers.	G. D. Burley, 4th Lord's day	...	...	...	...	...	...	20	1 10
Jonathan's Creek, Licking co.; Eld. E. Barker, P. Gutridge and Daniel Drumm	E. Barker, 4th Lord's day	...	...	...	...	...	3	46	4 50
Monday Creek, Perry co.; no letter or Messenger.									
St. Louisville, Licking co.; Eld. J. Prichard and J. E. Stevens	J. Prichard, 2d Lord's day	...	...	...	...	...	...	34	3 50
Friendship, at Hog Run, Licking co.; P. W. Brubaker, A. T. Jury and A. Beall	No Pastor, 3d Lord's day	...	...	...	...	...	...	29	3 00
Friendship, near Linnville, Licking co.; L. Handley, J. L. Lawrence and T. D. Lawrence	E. Barker, 2d Lord's day	...	...	...	...	...	3	32	3 00
Harmony, Licking co.; J. Beaver and J. Skinner	Z. K. Holliday, 3d Lord's day	...	...	...	...	...	...	17	3 15
	Total	25	1	1	2	2	17	611	$74 90

NOTE—Saturday preceding each Lord's day, mentioned in the foregoing table, is the day of business of the respective Churches.

Adjourned till 1 o'clock, p.m.
Benediction by Elder E. Barker.

AFTERNOON SESSION—1 o'clock p.m.

Association met pursuant to adjournment.

1. Prayer by Eld. D. T. Poynter.

2. The Messengers' names were called.

3. Organized for the present Session by choosing Eld. J. Pritchard Moderator, and J. E. Stevens Clerk.

4. Committees were appointed as follows:

Committee on Arrangements—G. D. Burley, J. L. Lawrence and W. H. Hickman.

Committee on Preaching—The Messengers of Jonathan's Creek Church.

Committee on Funds—Jacob Grove, A. Nixon and Joseph Beaver.

Committee on Visitation Meetings—Wm. Beal, A. T. Jury and J. O. Cooksey.

5. Churches wishing to unite with the Association were called for.

6. Correspondence from Sister Associations called for, and was presented as follows:

Miami—Eld. Frank McGlade and Minutes.

Scioto—Eld. G. N. Tussing and Minutes.

Sandusky—Eld. G. A. Bretz and Minutes.

Pocatalico—Eld. Wm. Melton and Minutes.

Owl Creek Harmony—Eld. L. B. Sherwood and Minutes.

7. Corresponding Messengers to Sister Associations were appointed as follows:

Miami—Eld. J. Prichard.

Scioto—Eld. E. Barker.

Sandusky—Eld. W. H. Hickman.

Pocatalico—Eld. G. D. Burley.

Owl Creek Harmony—Eld. J. J. Vanhorn.

8. The Circular Letter written by Eld. W. H. Hickman, and the Corresponding Letter written by Eld. E. Barker, were called for, read and referred to the Committee on Arrangements.

9. Adjourned until to-morrow morning, 9 o'clock.
Benediction by Eld. L. B. Sherwood.

SATURDAY MORNING—9 o'clock.

Association met pursuant to adjournment.
Prayer by Eld. J. J. Vanhorn.
The Messengers' names were called.

1. The Committee on Arrangements reported that Arrangements be the same as last year except Resolutions 5th and 6th.

2. That the Circular and Corresponding Letters be adopted as received from the Committee on Arrangements.

3. That Eld. J. Prichard write the Circular and Eld. J. J. Vanhorn the Corresponding Letters for next year.

4. That the next Association be held with the Friendship Church, near Linnville, Licking County, Ohio.

The introductory sermon to be preached by Eld. E. Barker; but in case of failure by Eld. J. Prichard.

5. The Committee on Visitation Meetings reported as follows:

Falls of Licking—First Lord's day in November, at Shannon; Elders D. Hess and J. J. Vanhorn.

And Third Lord's day in May, at the Lower House; Eld. L. B. Sherwood.

Union—Fourth Lord's day in May; Eld. L. B. Sherwood.

Lancaster—Second Lord's day in November; Eld. G. D. Burley.

Timber Run—Third Lord's day in October; Eld. D. T. Poynter.

Lexington—Fourth Lord's day in June; Elder G. N. Tussing.

Bethel—First Lord's day in October; Eld. J. J. Vanhorn.

Beulah—Fifth Lord's day in October, to continue till First Lord's day in November; Elders D. T. Poynter, D. Hess and J. Prichard. And First Lord's day in June; Elders Z. K. Holliday, G. A. Bretz and J. Prichard.

Mount Pleasant—Fifth Lord's day in June; Elders E. Barker and W. H. Hickman.

Goshen—First Lord's day in October; Eld. J. Prichard. And First Lord's day in June; Eld. D. T. Poynter.

Pleasant Hill—Fifth Lord's day in October; Eld. F. McGlade. And Fifth Lord's day in May; Eld. D. T. Poynter.

Enon—Fifth Lord's day in May; Eld. J. Prichard.

Jonathan's Creek—Fourth Lord's day in May, Eld. D. T. Poynter.

St. Louisville—Second Lord's day in October; Eld. Z. K. Holliday. And Second Lord's day in May, Eld. G. A. Bretz.

Friendship, at Hog Run—Third Lord's day in May; Eld. W. H. Hickman.

Friendship at Linnville—Fourth Lord's day in December; Elders J. J. Vanhorn and L. B. Sherwood. And First Lord's day in May; G. N. Tussing.

Harmony—First Lord's in November; Elders E. Barker and G. D. Burley.*

6. Committee on Funds reported as follows:

Contributions	$65 99
Returned by Eld. G. D. Burley	6 06
" " Clerk	2 85
Total	$74 90

Appropriated as follows:

Minutes and Distribution	$20 00
Clerk	5 00
Miami, (Eld. J. Prichard)	10 40
Scioto, (Eld. E. Barker)	5 92
Sandusky, (Eld. W. H. Hickman)	14 26
Pocatalico, (Eld. G. D. Burley)	14 68
Owl Creek Harmony, (Eld. J. J. Vanhorn)	4 46
Difference	18
Total	$74 90

7. The Minutes were read and approved.

8. Adjourned to meet with the Friendship Church† near

* NOTE—All the above meetings to commence on Saturday preceding the Lord's day mentioned at 11 o'clock a. m., except the first Visitation Meeting at the Falls of Licking, which commences on Friday, at 11 o'clock, and at Lancaster, at 1 o'clock, on Saturday.

† NOTE—The Friendship Meeting House is situated near the Village of Linnville, Licking county, Ohio, and those who may wish to attend the Association by public conveyance can get off the train at Jacksontown Station, on the Straitsville

Linnville, Licking County, on Friday before the Fourth Lord's day in August, 1887, at 10 o'clock, a.m.

9. Benediction by the Moderator.

ELD. JOHN PRICHARD, *Moderator.*

J. E. STEVENS, *Clerk.*

PREACHING ON THE STAND.

FRIDAY AFTERNOON.

Elder Z. K. Holliday; from 48th Psalm, 12th and 13th verses. And remarks by Eld. Frank McGlade.

Benediction by Eld. J. Prichard.

SATURDAY MORNING.

Eld. G. A. Bretz; from 2d chapter Phil., 12th and 13th verses. And Eld. W. A. Melton; from Isaiah, 54th chapter, 13th verse.

Benediction by Brother Spitler.

AFTERNOON.

Eld. G. N. Tussing; from 1st John, 3d chapter, 1st verse. And Eld. D. T. Poynter; from 1st Peter, 1st chapter, 18th and 19th verses.

Benediction by Eld. E. Barker.

SUNDAY, 9:30 A. M.

Elder T. Williams; from 103d Psalm, 13th verse. And Elder W. N. Buckels; from Isaiah, 61st chapter, 1st and 2d verses.

Benediction by Elder E. Barker.

AFTERNOON.

Elder L. B. Sherwood; from Matthew, 25th chapter and 34th verse. And remarks by Elder D. Hess.

Benediction by Elder Wm. Lippincott.

Division of B. & O. R. R., about one mile west of the Village of Jacksontown, on the National Road. A hack leaves Jacksontown daily at 6 o'clock, a.m., going east to Zanesville. Leaves Zanesville going west at 1 o'clock, p.m., daily. Linnville is about five miles east of the station and about nine miles from Zanesville.

The last Session was a grand and glorious one. The weather in the main, was propitious; the business was transacted pleasantly and harmoniously; the attendance was good; the preaching was a unit; and our brethren of the Jonathan's Creek Church entertained cheerfully, elegantly and bountifully; and, taken all in all, it was one of the most glorious Sessions ever held by the Association.

CLERK.

CORRESPONDING LETTER.

The Muskingum Regular Baptist Association in session with the Jonathan's Creek Church, near Gratoit, Licking County, Ohio, August 20th, 21st and 22d, 1886, sendeth Christian love:

DEAR KINDRED IN CHRIST:—We again have met in this, our Annual Association Meeting Your Messengers came, previously to us, in the providence of God, laden with Gospel truth. Knowing nothing for life and salvation for the children of men but Christ.—a crucified and risen Redeemer. We desire a continuance of your Christian correspondence. Our Minutes will inform you of our next Annual Association Meeting, or Session. May the Lord keep us all in peace. FAREWELL.

CIRCULAR LETTER.

The Muskingum Predestinarian Baptist Association, in session with the Jonathan's Creek Church, in Licking County, Ohio, August 20th, 21st and 22d, 1886, to the Churches composing her body, sendeth Christian salutation:

DEAR BRETHREN IN CHRIST:—In comformity with a time honored custom with us, we have once more, by the grace of God, met in this our 77th annual session; which occasion, under former custom, imposes upon us the duty of addressing you through the instrumentality of a circular letter. Diversified and comprehensive subjects have been written upon, in years past and gone. Suffice it, for the present, to "stir up your pure minds by way of remembrance" of things pertinent to, and inseparable from the Christian life. In the first Epistle general of Peter, 4th chapter and 8th verse, he says: "And above all things have fervent charity among yourselves; for charity shall cover the multitude of sins." Here is a noble rule in Christianity; *Charity among Christians;* which implies an affection for their persons; a desire for their welfare; and a hearty endeavor to promote it;—an affection, *fervent, sincere, strong and lasting.* This is recommended *above all things;* which shows the importance of it It is greater than faith or hope, 1st Cor. 13: 13th. One excellent affect of it is, that it will cover *a multitude of sins.* There ought to be in all Christians a more fervent charity towards one another, than toward other men; *have charity among yourselves,* Heb. 13: 1st. There is a special relation among all sincere Christians, and a particular amiableness and good in them, which require special affection. It is not enough for Christians not to bear malice, or to have common respect one for another, they must intensely and fervently love each other. It is the property of true charity *to cover a multitude of sins.* It inclines one to forgive and forget offenses against themselves; to cover and conceal the sins of others, rather than aggravate them, and spread them abroad. It teaches us to love them who are but weak, and who have been guilty of many evil things before their conversion; and it prepares for mercy at the hand of God, who hath promised to forgive them that forgive others, Mat. 6: 14th Christians ought not only to be charitable but hospitable, one to another. Whatever a Christian does by way of charity or of hospitality, he ought to do it cheerfully, and *without grudging.* Freely

ye have received, freely give. It is the duty of Christians in private, as well as ministers is public, to speak to one another of the things of God. It highly concerns all Preachers of the Gospel to keep close to the Word of God and to treat that word as becomes *the oracles of God.* Christians must not only do the duties of their place but do them with vigor and according to the best of their abilities. In all the duties and services of life, we should aim at the glory of God as our chief aim; which would sanctify our common actions and affairs, 1st Cor. 10: 31st God is not glorified in anything we do if we do not offer it to Him through the mediation and merits of Jesus Christ. "God in all things must be glorified through Jesus Christ," who is the only way to the Father. The Apostle's adoration of Jesus Christ, and ascribing unlimited and everlasting praise and dominion to Him, prove that Jesus Christ is the most high God over all, blessed forever. The frequent repetition of counsel and comfort to Christians, considered as sufferers, in every chapter of this Epistle, shows that the greatest danger that new converts are in, arises from persecution to which their embracing Christianity exposes them. The good behavior of Christians under sufferings, is the most difficult part of their duty, but yet necessary, both for the honor of Christ and their own comfort; therefore the Apostle, having extorted them in the former part of this chapter to the great duty of mortification, comes here to direct them in the necessary duty of patience under suffering. An unmortified spirit is very unfit to bear trials. His advice to them relating to their sufferings is that they should not think them *strange,* nor be surprised at them, as if some unexpected event befell them, for though sharp and fiery, yet they are designed only to try, not to ruin them; to try their sincerity, strength, patience and trust in God. On the contrary, they ought rather to rejoice under their sufferings, because theirs may properly be called Christ's sufferings. They are of the same kind and for the same cause that Christ suffered; they make us conformable to Him; He suffers in them and feels our infirmities; and if we be partakers of his sufferings, we shall also be *made partakers of his glory,* and shall meet him with exceeding joy at His great appearing to judge His enemies, and crown His faithful servants. True Christians love and own the children of God in their lowest and most distressing circumstances. There is no reason for Christians to think strange, or to wonder at the unkindness and persecutions of the world. Christians ought not only to be patient, but to rejoice in their sharpest and sorest sufferings for Christ, because these sufferings are tokens of divine favor; they promote the Gospel, and prepare for glory. From the fiery trial the Apostle descends to a lower degree of persecution,—that of the tongue, by slander and reproach. In such case he asserts *happy are ye;* the reason of which is "Because ye have the spirit of God with you," to fortify and comfort you; and the spirit of God is also the spirit of Glory. This glorious Spirit *resteth upon you.* resideth with you, in you, and is pleased with you; and, is not this an unspeakable privilege? By your patience and fortitude in suffering, by your dependance on the promises of God, and adhering to the word which the Holy Spirit hath revealed, *He is on your part glorified;* but by the contempt and reproaches cast upon you the *Spirit itself* is evil spoken of and blasphemed. The best men and the best things usually meet with reproaches in the world. The happiness of Christians not only consists with, but flows from their afflictions, "Happy are ye." That man who has the spirit of

God resting upon him, cannot be miserable, be his afflictions ever so great. When Christians are vilified "for the name of Christ," His Holy Spirit is glorified in them. One would think that such caution as the Apostle gives in this Epistle, were needless to such excellent Christians as those were. But their enemies charged them with being murderers, thieves, evil-doers, busy-bodies in other men's matters, &c. Therefore, the Apostle, when he was settling the rules of the Christian religion, thought these cautions necessary, forbidding every one of them to hurt the life or the estate and property of any one, or to do any sort of evil; or without call and necessity to play the bishop in another man's charge, or busy himself in other men's matters. To this caution he adds a direction, that if any man suffer for the cause of Christianity, and with a patient Christian spirit, he ought not to account it a shame, but an honor to him; and ought to glorify God, who hath thus dignified him. The best of men need to be warned against the worst of sins; there is very little comfort in sufferings when we bring them on ourselves by our sin and folly. It is not the sufferer, but the cause, that makes the martyr. We have reason to thank God for the honor if He calls us to suffer for any of the duties or doctrine of Christianity.

FAREWELL.

DECEASED MEMBERS.

Falls of Licking—John Dorsey and Mary Devore.
Union—Margaret Crawford.
Lancaster—Sarah Nigh.
Timber Run—Ada Osborn.
Beulah—Samantha Crawmer.
Scott's Creek—Silas Nixon and Frank Parker.
Goshen—Celia Ann Cox, died Sept. 18th, 1885.
Pleasant Hill—Sarah Palmer and Louiza Devore.
Jonathan's Creek—Mary Mason, Sarah Walker and Delilah Kreager.
Friendship, near Linnville—Eld. Samuel Meridith, Margaret Orr and Hannah Roley.

NEWARK, OHIO, August 30th, 1886.
Received of J. E. Stevens, Clerk, the sum of Sixteen Dollars for printing 1100 Minutes. ADVOCATE PRINTING CO.

POST-OFFICE ADDRESS OF MINISTERS.

John Prichard	St. Louisville,	Licking	County,	Ohio
Ephriam Barker	Gratiot,	"	"	"
John Bolin	Newark,	"	"	"
D. T. Poynter	(Box 145) "	"	"	"
John Croy	Elliott's Cross R'ds,	Morgan	"	"
Wm. Newlan	Portersville,	Perry	"	"
Geo. D. Burley	Hopewell,	Musking'm	"	"
Wm. Fisher	Lancaster,	Fairfield	"	"
Geo. N. Tussing	Columbus,	Franklin	"	"
W. H. Hickman	New Lexington,	Perry	"	"
Wooston Melton	Upland,	Mason	"	W. Va.
Wm. A. Melton	Poca,	Putnam	"	"
Wm. Lippincott	St. Paris,	Champaign	"	Ohio
Z K. Holliday	New Salem,	Fairfield	"	"
G. W Tulloss	Fredericktown,	Knox	"	"
Geo. Waddle	Sabina,	Clinton	"	"
A. S. Shoemaker	Ashley,	Delaware	"	"
J. C. Reed	Blanchester,	——	"	"
G. A Bretz	Milton Center,	Henry	"	"
Lemuel Potter	Cynthiana,	Posey	"	Ind.
Lewis Herod, (licentiate)	Marengo,	Morrow	"	Ohio
J. M. Struble, "	Chesterville,	"	"	"
Lewis T. Ruffner, "	Millersport,	Fairfield	"	"
Thos Williams	Urbana,	Champaign	"	"
Wm. N. Buckles	Dunkirk,	Jay	"	Ind.
Levi Davis	Logan,	Hocking	"	Ohio
J. J. Vanhorn	No. 177 Ridge Avenue, Zanesville,	Musking'm	"	"
Frank McGlade	Centerville,	Montgom'ry	"	"

POST-OFFICE ADDRESS OF CHURCH CLERKS.

Falls of Licking	Wm. Beal, Dresdon,	Muskingum	County,	Ohio
Hopewell	John Forsythe, Sago,	Perry	"	"
Union	Samuel Buriff, New Salem,	Fairfield	"	"
Lancaster	G. W. Starner, Lancaster,	"	"	"
Lexington	T. Davids, New Lexington,	Perry	"	"
Timber Run	John Allen, Hopewell,	Muskingum	"	"
Bethel	Bartholomew Davis, Nobleville,	Noble	"	"
Beulah	Stephen Francis, Toboso,	Licking	"	"
Mt. Pleasant	L. Richards, Crooksville,	Perry	"	"
York	Wm. Newlan, Portersville, "		"	"
Zoar	Richard Wells, Brush Creek,	Muskingum	"	"
Mt. Olive	John Croy, Elliotts Cross Roads,	Morgan	"	"
Scott's Creek	E. C. Harsh, Logan,	Hocking	"	"
Goshen	J. Crozier, Cumberland,	Guernsey	"	"
Pleasant Hill	J. O. Cooksey, Cooksey,	Licking	"	"
Enon	B. F. Freeman, Byesville,	Guernsey	"	"
Jonathan's Creek	Peter Gutridge, Brownsville,	Licking	"	"
Monday Creek	Thomas Nixon, New Straitsville,	Perry	"	"
St Louisville	J. E. Stevens, Box 422, Newark,	Licking	"	"
Friendship, at Hog Run	A. T. Jury, Jacksontown,	"	"	"
Friendship, near Linnville	T. D. Lawrence, Linnville,	"	"	"
Harmony	Ephriam Richards, Alexandria,	"	"	"